

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

## **Intergovernmental Policy Division**

To: Municipal Chief Elected Officials, Chief Executive Officers, and Chief Finance Officers

CC: COG Directors, CCM, COST

From: W. David LeVasseur, Acting Undersecretary

Date: May 24, 2016

Subject: Updated Guidance on Discretionary State Funding Eligibility re: CGS Section 8-23

Section 8-23(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended by <u>Public Act 15-95</u>, requires each municipality to adopt a plan of conservation and development (POCD) at least once every 10 years, or otherwise become ineligible for *discretionary state funding*. OPM previously provided guidance on this matter in April 2015, when the prohibition on discretionary state funding was scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2015, and again in June 2015 after Public Act 15-95 postponed the effective date to July 1, 2016.

As we approach the July 1, 2016 effective date, OPM has launched a dedicated website, <a href="http://ct.gov/opm/municipalplans">http://ct.gov/opm/municipalplans</a>, to help municipalities monitor and manage their eligibility for discretionary state funding. At this time, it is critical that each municipality review its date of POCD adoption and notify OPM of any inaccuracies in its records, following the instructions on OPM's website.

Going forward, this inventory of municipal POCD adoption dates will be used by state agency grant administrators to determine the eligibility status of each municipality that applies for discretionary state funding. Therefore, it is imperative that you notify OPM whenever the planning commission adopts a new or amended POCD, so that OPM can update the online inventory.

I suggest that you familiarize yourself with the new website, since it also explains the process for affected municipalities to request a waiver of the discretionary state funding prohibition from the OPM Secretary on a "per grant application" basis, in addition to including samples of the *Notice of Expired POCD Letter*, the *Waiver Request Letter*, and other pertinent information for municipalities to comply with the requirements of CGS Section 8-23.

Please notify Dan Morley of my staff at either (860) 418-6343 or <a href="mailto:Daniel.Morley@ct.gov">Daniel.Morley@ct.gov</a>, if you have any questions.